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Danielle, age 55

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Pictured:

The Astin Sofa.

Not pictured:

The "lost" TV remote wedged between the cushions.

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styleathome OCTOBER 2016

Brighten up a dramatically dark kitchen with chic accessories and a bold wallpaper in a warm shade.

HOMES

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TABLET EDITION
Get *Style at Home* for your iPad, with additional how-to video content, bonus image galleries and more. Download it on the App Store today.

ON THE COVER
An eclectic living room is brimming with character thanks to custom wooden furniture pieces and pops of lively colour **82**

PHOTOGRAPHY
Janis Nicolay

KOMMA
THE ITALIAN
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THE WAY WE WERE Whenever Janou attended photo shoots with me, he'd always somehow weasel his way into a shot or two. Last January, he and my dog Tallulah posed with me for my editor's portrait. Since I knew this might be the last shoot with my beloved dog, I kept wiping tears off my face as the camera clicked away. Coincidentally, the sofa in the pic had been reupholstered because of...guess who? When Janou buried a bone in that piece, I enlisted the talented J&J Made to restore it in a palette inspired by the very dog who ruined it. For those with an eagle eye, the tip of the wooden armrest is gnawed – it's "patina" that will forever remind me of one of the best friends I've ever had.

best FRIENDS

If there's one thing those of us in the decorating industry love more than great design, it's our pets. So many members of this community are animal lovers. *Style at Home*'s editors rarely attend house shoots where there aren't dogs, cats, rabbits or birds in residence, and as you know, they frequently make an appearance in the magazine. We animal aficionados always agree: A house is simply not a home without the presence of our furry (or feathered) friends.

It's a message that brings tears to my eyes even as I write this letter. A few months ago, I lost my dog Janou. This devoted partner in crime had seen me through many relationships, moves and jobs as well as all the unpredictable ups and downs that come with life – for 15 years he was my constant companion.

Janou also inspired my decorating style in more ways than I can count. His lovely mottled coat, for example, was the perfect mix of neutrals and was the jumping-off point for a paint palette in Beauti-Tone's Style at Home Country Colour Collection. And he was unwittingly the cause of some of my own home makeovers (due to his pesky habit of burying bones into upholstery, destroying a few of my favourite furniture pieces in the process).

When he died, I sobbed into the coats of my other four-legged friends – my lovely horse, Fleur, and my dog, Tallulah. But I was also surrounded with love and support from family and friends, including so many from the design community who had met Janou over the years.

We share so much of our lives with these loyal companions – so they deserve their day in the sun, too. Share a snap of your pet at home on Twitter or Instagram and hashtag it #PetStyleAtHome. I'd love to see them.

Erin

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instagram.com/styleathomeeditor

PHOTOGRAPHY, BROGAN MCNAB FOR THE SEPTEMBER, THESEPTEMBER.COM (PORTRAIT), STACEY BRANDFORD (INSET); SHIRT, OVER THE RAINBOW, RAINBOWJEANS.COM; BRIDLE, BRUNO DELGRANGE, BRUNODELGRANGE.COM

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PRINTING
Printed at Transcontinental RBW Graphics, a division of Transcontinental Printing 2005 G.P., 2049 20th St. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 5R2. All reproduction requests must be made to COPIBEC (paper reproductions at 800-717-2022), or CEDROM-SNi (electronic reproductions at reproduction@cedrom-sni.com). ISSN: 1915-8998.

DISTRIBUTION
Distributed by Coast to Coast.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: 905-946-0910, STYLEATHOME.COM
STYLE AT HOME, Sub. Dept., P.O. Box 814, Markham Station, Markham, ON L3P 7Z6. Send address changes to the post office box address above, including the mailing label from your latest issue. Allow eight weeks for changes.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES
Canadian subscriptions: **1 year** = **$29.95** (plus taxes).
U.S. subscriptions: **1 year** = **$67.95** (payable in advance).
International subscriptions: **1 year** = **$177.95** (payable in advance).
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Download the Style at Home app for iPad on the App Store. Digital editions are also available on Molto, Zinio, Kobo, Press Reader and Google Play.

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Style at Home is published 12 times a year (except for occasional combined, expanded or premium issues) by TVA Publications Inc., 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, ON M2N 6S7; 416-733-7600; groupetva.ca. In the U.S.: TVA Group c/o Media Corps, Attn.: Michelle Gross/Chris Purcell, 2706 Gateway Rd., Carlsbad, CA 92009.

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

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Long Island Table

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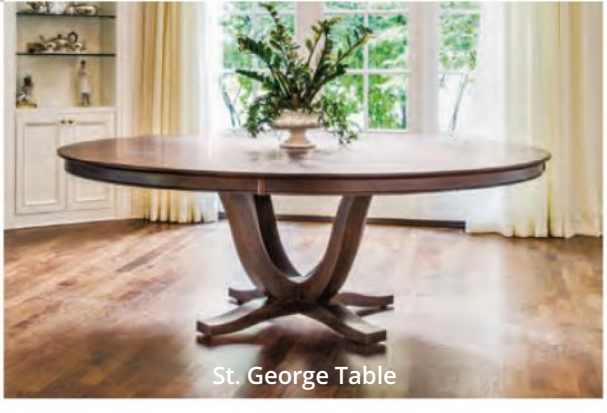
Metropolitan Table



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COLOUR **CUES**

This past weekend at my parents' cottage, I found a moment to put my feet up and flip through the June 2016 issue of *Style at Home*. I could not believe it when I came across the article "Jack & Jill" (page 59). Candace Alongi of The Minted Mama has perfectly executed the gender-neutral nursery. I've spent hours online trying to decide on the ideal blue paint colour to update my daughter's bedroom as she transitions from toddler to little girl. Now, thanks to this story, I've found it! I was also planning to use coral as the accent colour, but I'm drawn to the mango shades Candace used in the room. Thank you for always inspiring Canadians everywhere.

ANDREA HARE, STILLWATER LAKE, NS

COASTAL **BLISS**

As a *Style at Home* subscriber for many years, I look especially forward to your July and August issues – specifically the cottage-related ones. Imagine my delight as I was actually sitting at a cottage, reading my August 2016 issue. Oh, happy day!

SANDRA ASMA, HAMILTON, ON

LASTING **LINEN**

I just received the September 2016 issue of *Style at Home*, and I really enjoyed reading about editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin and home & style director Ann Marie Favot's visit to beautiful Ireland ("The Lure of Linen," page 63). I love Irish linen and have quite a collection of my own. Some of my favourite pieces include tablecloths my mother gave me. There is also nothing better than a linen tea towel for drying glassware to a stunning sparkle. It really is one of those fabrics that looks and feels better with age.

INGRID, VIA EMAIL

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style news

PRODUCER MORGAN LINDSAY | **TEXT** MARY LEVITSKI

study break

This cozy chinoiserie-on-chinoiserie office nook inspires a flood of ideas with soothing watery and earthy tones.

PAINT PALETTE OF THE MONTH

SHIMMERING WATER 6150-31, Sico Paint, sico.ca.

PACIFIC COAST 18BG 47/282, Dulux Paints, dulux.ca.

INTENSE WHITE OC-51, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

Behr **ROASTED SEEDS** M220-5, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL; DESIGN, CHRISTINE HANLON

PATTERN PLAY

Sarah & Ruby cement **TILES,** 8″, $10 each, Clé, cletile.com.

With roots in centuries-old artisanship, traditional cement tiles have basked in the spotlight for some time now and show no sign of fading away, especially with the availability of modern versions like these abstract florals and softened geometrics.

ARCHI-TYPES

THEY SAY GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE, AND THESE TWO ARCHITECTURAL BRASSY-BASED VELVET ARMCHAIRS AFFIRM THE MAXIM. EQUAL PARTS GLAMOROUS AND SOPHISTICATED, THE CHIC PIECES ARE TOTAL POWER SEATS.

Velvet and polished brass **ARMCHAIR,** $500, HomeSense, homesense.ca.

Polyester and plated stainless steel Cue **ARMCHAIR,** $899, CB2, cb2.com.

LAYER UP

TREND ALERT: THIS SEASON, WE'RE SEEING LOTS OF SMALL RUGS WITH BIG PERSONALITIES ATOP LARGER SUBDUED NATURAL-FIBRE OPTIONS, AND IT'S EASY TO SEE WHY – once you've got a room covered with a low-impact, low-cost rug, you can afford to layer on a pricier bold piece.

1. Flat-woven jute Lohals **RUG,** 10′ x 7′, $149, IKEA, ikea.ca. **2.** Hand-knotted wool blend Masinissa **RUG** in Ivory & Grey, 5′ x 8′, $1,078 US, Annie Selke's Dash & Albert, dash-andalbert.com. **3.** Dhurrie wool Ella **RUG,** 5′ x 8′, $695 US, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com. **4.** Handmade wool and bamboo silk McCartney Blue **RUG,** 6′ x 9′, $4,415, Elte, elte.com.

All eyes will be on these stunning rugs when they take the floor.

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Balboa Mist OC-27 **PAINT,** Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

Dimpse 277 **PAINT,** Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

Capture the soft side of concrete with these delicate paint colours.

CONCRETE IDEA

THOUGH WE LOVE GLITZ AND FRILLS, GREAT DECORATIVE PIECES CAN BE AUSTERE, TOO. THIS TABLE LAMP COMMANDS ATTENTION WITH ITS NO-NONSENSE LINEAR CONCRETE BASE AND SIMPLE FABRIC SHADE.

Concrete Klint **TABLE LAMP** with fabric shade in White, $150, EQ3, eq3.com.

PLACID PACIFICA

Nestled on California's northern coast, the small city of Pacifica is a tranquil sanctuary for free spirits like ceramicist Linda Fahey. The artist draws inspiration from her naturally rich surroundings, and the latest pieces she designed for Anthropologie (named after her well-loved town) are no exception.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

INSPIRATION

ONCE UPON A TIME IN A FARAWAY PLACE CALLED PARIS, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ERIN MCLAUGHLIN CAME UPON A MASSIVE MOUNTAIN COVERED ENTIRELY IN DELPHINIUMS – on the grounds of the Louvre no less. In fact, she was standing before the building that held Dior's spring 2016 fashion show. Upon returning home, so inspired by the breathtaking sight, she promptly created a delphinium-adorned addition to the Style at Home Collection bedding line.

Style at Home Collection queen/double cotton 4-piece Delphine **SHEET SET,** $130, and 3-piece Delphine **DUVET SET,** $200, Sears, sears.ca.

Pacifica Collection **PITCHER,** $98 US, and **PLATTER,** $128 US, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

Fluid shapes and organic motifs define the Pacifica Collection.

PHOTOGRAPHY, COURTESY DIOR (INSPIRATION)

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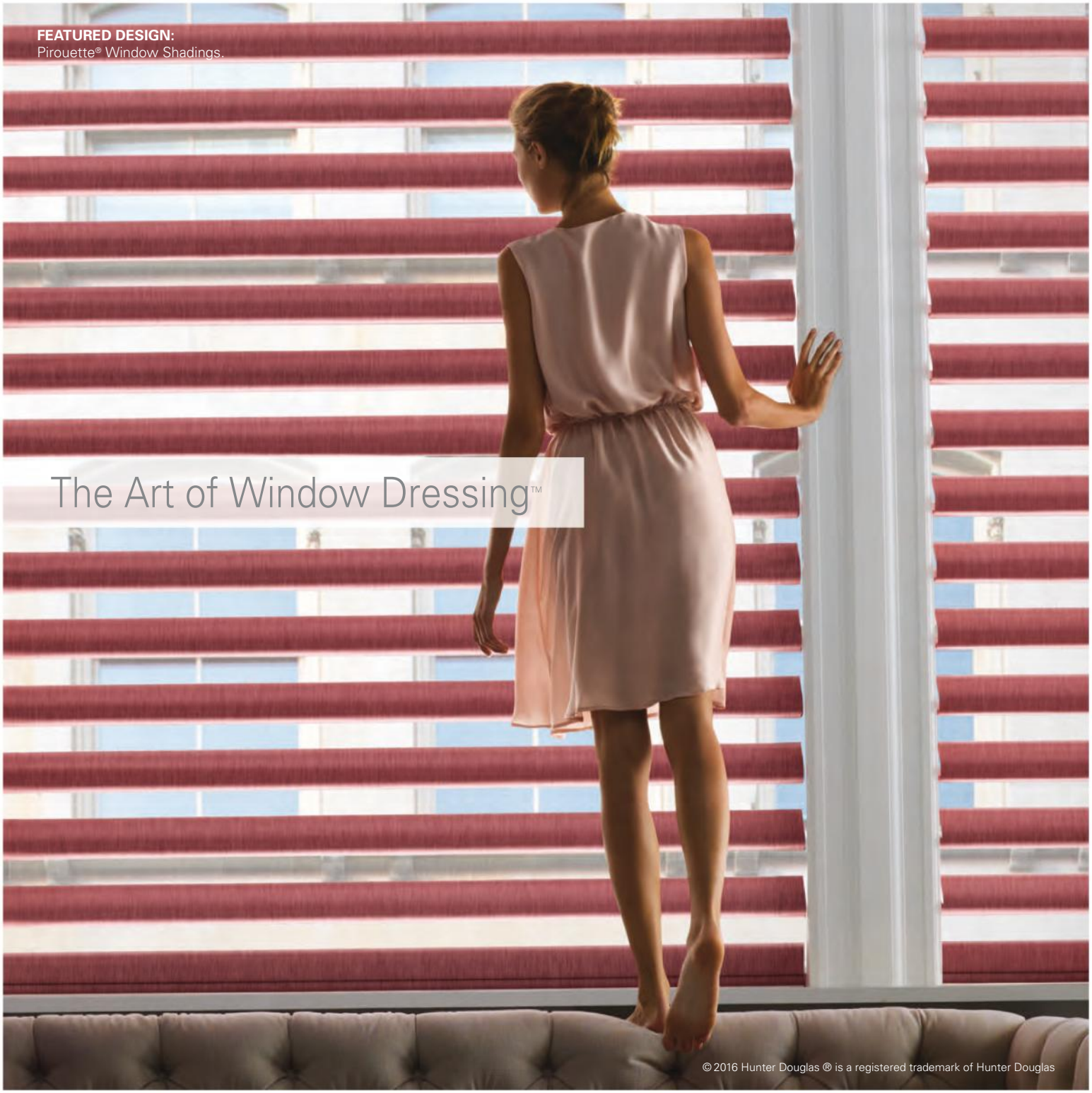

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1

2

Whimsical yet subtle, this whale wallpaper is well suited for both small and large applications.

3

whales

Forever fascinated by these inhabitants of the great blue sea, we're whale-watching this month – even when we're not by the water!

PRODUCER AMANDA ETTY

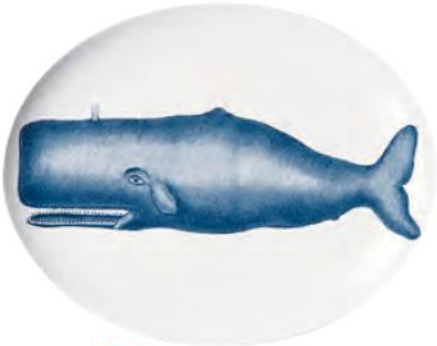
4

5

10

With a fanciful cover, a literary classic becomes a coffee table-worthy art piece.

7



6

Linen tea towels last a long time and get softer with every use.

9

This Scandi-chic sculpture doubles as a hiding spot for bits and bobs.

8

1 Ceramic Whale **PITCHER,** $98 US, Jonathan Adler, jonathanadler.com.

2 Denim and canvas Wally the Whale **TOSS CUSHION,** 12", $32 US, Fait la Force, faitlaforce.com.

3 Cole & Son Whimsical Melville **WALLPAPER** in Neutral, $250 per double roll, through designers, Lee Jofa, leejofa.com.

4 The Whale **PRINT,** $60 US, Banquet Atelier & Workshop, banquetworkshop.com.

5 Sweet Bella Whale **STAPLER** in Grey, $35, Easy Tiger Goods, easytigergoods.com.

6 Melamine Scrimshaw **PLATTER,** $30, All-Modern, allmodern.com.

7 *Moby-Dick* **BOOK** by Herman Melville, $39, Indigo, indigo.ca.

8 Beech Whale Animal **BOX,** $36, Areaware, areaware.com.

9 Linen Whale Love **TEA TOWEL,** $42 US, Coral & Tusk, coralandtusk.com.

10 Geoff McFetridge canvas Whales **TOTE,** $165 US, Pottok, pottokprints.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY, KATE LACEY (TEA TOWEL), JEFFERY ROSS (TOTE)

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SUBARU.CA/EYESIGHT

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Pre-collision Throttle Management detects objects in front of your Subaru and cuts power to the throttle in the event of an absent-minded start.

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HOW TO

keep your mattress fresh

Everything you need to know to maintain a functional, clean bed long term. **PRODUCER** MARY LEVITSKI

You're diligent about washing your sheets, but do you clean what's underneath them? In addition to the expected bodily fluids and dust, your mattress comes in contact with all types of microscopic filth, chief among them dust mite droppings. Dust mites live in upholstery and feed on skin cells (something you're constantly unwittingly shedding), and beyond being plain gross, their droppings can cause allergic reactions. So it's high time you add mattress cleaning, a seasonal chore, to your to-do list. Having removed the sheets, vacuum the surface using the upholstery and crevice attachments. Spot clean any stains using an enzyme-based upholstery or carpet spray, such as a pet-odour remover. Then liberally cover the mattress with baking soda; let sit for a full day. Finally, vacuum up all the powder and enjoy a truly freshly made bed.

seasonally

ON ROTATION

Much like the groove that develops in your go-to spot on the sofa, over the years, different areas of your mattress get uneven wear. To help it last longer, make a habit of rotating the mattress once a season. Alternate between flipping it from head to toe one season and upside down the next. (If your mattress has a pillow top, then only flip it head to toe.)

VERY AIRY

Air circulation is key to deterring bacterial growth, so give your mattress some breathing room: If possible, place it outdoors in the sun (the UV rays will add an antimicrobial kick) every few months. When you go out of town, leave it bare of sheets.

DO

Use a mattress cover. Launder it frequently, especially if you suffer from allergies.

DON'T

Saturate your mattress with water or use any sort of dry-cleaning chemicals; both can cause irreparable damage.

buyer's guide

IN THE MARKET FOR A NEW MATTRESS? CHECK OUT OUR SHOPPING TIPS.

Cost: Set a realistic budget (don't cheap out on a good night's sleep) and stick to it. This is a big-ticket item, so the store may be willing to bargain.

Quality: Pay attention to details (stitching, seams, etc.), which will reveal how durable and well made the mattress is.

Comfort: Always lie down to get a feel. If you're debating between two models, opt for the firmer one – it will soften over time, and you can buy a plush mattress pad if need be.

Policies: Familiarize yourself with the return policy and warranty before purchasing.

BEST BEFORE

The average lifespan of a mattress is about a decade. If yours is showing surface wear, sagging or becoming at all uncomfortable, it may be time to trade up.

kit and caboodle

Stock up on these tools to create the ultimate mattress-cleaning kit.

DEODORIZER
Nature's best odour absorber is baking soda, and this one is sourced without the use of chemicals.

Bob's Red Mill **BAKING SODA,** $5, Well.ca.

DIRT SUCKER
This handheld is specially engineered to extract all the microscopic dirt from your mattress.

V6 Mattress **VACUUM,** $330, Dyson, dysoncanada.ca.

STAIN REMOVER
This non-toxic spray tackles organic stains without leaving behind any harmful residue.

Nature Clean **PET STAIN & ODOUR REMOVER,** $9, Well.ca.

HE FIGHTS DIRTY, *no matter how dirty* DIRTY IS.

NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE, TOUGH MESSES DON'T STAND A CHANCE WHEN MR. CLEAN'S MAGIC ERASER IS PART OF YOUR CLEAN ROUTINE.

THERE'S NO CLEAN LIKE Mr. Clean

Wet before use. A rinse is required for surfaces that come in direct contact with food. Use as directed.

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PRODUCER AMANDA ETTY

kitchen cravings

We round up the latest and greatest kitchen must-haves, including gorgeous cookware, our favourite cookbook and more.

1

EASY DOES IT

The latest cookbook by Gwyneth Paltrow is filled with more than 125 recipes fit for hectic days that prove you needn't sacrifice taste when you're short on time.

It's All Easy **BOOK** by Gwyneth Paltrow with Thea Baumann, $42, Grand Central Life & Style, grandcentrallifeandstyle.com.

2

NOT-SO-TRIVIAL DETAIL

We love this laser-cut felt trivet by San Francisco-based designer Molly McGrath. It'll keep your tabletop safe from a hot teapot and also look great off-duty, hanging as artwork or displayed on a shelf.

Molly M Designs Arrow **TRIVET,** $38, Örling & Wu, orlingandwu.com.

3

HOME COOKIN'

The transition to fall cooking (think hearty roasts and soups) is more than welcome when you're using this stunning soapstone pot with striking copper detailing.

Small **POT** with lid, $179 US, Kaufmann Mercantile, kaufmann-mercantile.com.

4

THINK SMALL

Need to whip up five dozen cookies in a tiny kitchen? No problem. KitchenAid's iconic stand mixer now comes in a mini version that's 20 percent smaller, 25 percent lighter and available in 10 fun colours.

Artisan Mini **STAND MIXER** in Matte White, $549, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.com.

5

PACK YOUR LUNCH

Put an end to sad desk dining with Trudeau Maison's latest Fuel products, including these cute condiment containers (just the right size for dressings, dips and small bites).

Fuel **CONDIMENT CONTAINERS,** $10 per set of 3, Trudeau Maison, trudeau.com.

cocktail pick

The Dark & Stormy is everything a cocktail should be: tasty, of course, but also refreshing, fizzy and easy to make.

Chic Choc Spiced Rum **LIQUOR,** $34, Domaine Pinnacle, domainepinnacle.com.

DARK & STORMY

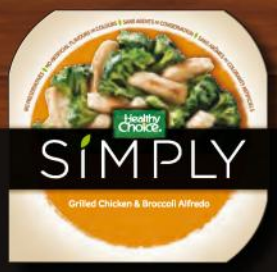
2 oz Chic Choc Spiced Rum
Ginger beer
Lime wedge, for garnish

Fill a highball glass with ice cubes. Add the spiced rum and then top it off with the ginger beer. Stir and garnish with the lime wedge.

PHOTOGRAPHY, GETTY IMAGES (COCKTAIL)

Simply nothing artificial.

Grilled Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo



NEW Healthy Choice SIMPLY frozen meals are made with no artificial colours, flavours, or preservatives, so what you see is what you get. And what you get is something delicious.

Available in the frozen aisle in 5 delicious flavours.

pear & ginger crumble

Is there anything that *says autumn more than a crisp fruit crumble, oozing with syrupy goodness* and a crunch of oatmeal on top? Our version skips the traditional apples this season and instead focuses on pears and ginger for a sophisticated dessert that will have you begging for more.

RECIPE
JENNIFER BARTOLI

PHOTOGRAPHY
MAYA VISNYEI

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CLAIRE STUBBS

PROP STYLING
ANN MARIE FAVOT

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Anjou, Bosc and Forelle pears, ***FIRM VARIETIES*** *that hold their shape when cooked, are best for this dish.*

INGREDIENTS

SERVES 6

Filling

- 5 firm ripe pears, peeled, cored and chopped
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup diced crystallized ginger
- ½ tsp orange zest
- 3 tbsp freshly squeezed orange juice
- 4 tsp all-purpose flour
- ¼ tsp ground ginger
- ¼ tsp cinnamon
- Pinch nutmeg
- ½ cup dulce de leche spread, divided

Topping

- ⅔ cup large-flake rolled oats
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp brown sugar
- Pinch each: cinnamon and ground ginger
- ⅓ cup cold butter, cubed

DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl, gently toss together the pears, brown sugar, crystallized ginger, orange zest, orange juice, flour, ground ginger, cinnamon and nutmeg. Spread in a 9" x 13" ovenproof baking dish. Dollop 2 tablespoons of the dulce de leche evenly overtop of the filling.

Preheat the oven to 425°F. In a medium bowl, stir together all the topping ingredients except the butter. Using your fingers, rub in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Squeeze the mixture with your hands to form clumps and sprinkle the topping over the filling. Bake until the topping is light gold and the filling is bubbly, 20 to 25 minutes. Broil until the topping is deep gold, 1 to 2 minutes. Serve warm with the remaining dulce de leche on the side.

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PATINA LUXE

Texture and shine take center stage, with jewel-like accents amping up the glamour. Now more than ever, vintage shapes executed in modern materials look new and fresh. Velvets, linens, and leathers provide the all-important contrast of matte and gloss for a sophisticated overall look.

MODERN GEOMETRY

Bold patterns and shapes executed in a brighter palette are anything but staid. The look is eclectic, with artisanal patterns and geometric shapes clashing—in a good way. Black and white temper the riot of colors and help anchor the space.

GLOBAL ARTISTRY

Inspired by travel and adventure, the trend is a modern take on global patterns, fabrics, and crafts. It's all in the mix. Embroidery, caning, animal hides, even macramé, give a handcrafted, organic feel to accessories. Soft pastels contrast with deep blues and greys. Ethnic accents complete the look.

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PRODUCERS STACY BEGG & MORGAN LINDSAY

TEXT MARY LEVITSKI

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL NANGREAVES

high OR low?

We designed a country-chic living room console and styled it to match on budgets behooving both a cart horse and a thoroughbred. Can you tell the difference?

HIGH $5,601

HIGH & LOW hardwood **FLOORING,** Lauzon, lauzonflooring.com; custom glass **TABLETOP,** Canada Glass & Mirror Co., canadaglass.ca; **SHELVING UNIT & LEGS** (under skirt), IKEA, ikea.ca.

$320

1 A-Street Prints Reclaimed White Washed Boards **WALLPAPER** in Cream, $160 per double roll, Brewster Home Fashions, brewsterwallcovering.com.

$468US

2 What Lies Ahead **PRINT** on standard paper with White Premium Wood frame, 44″ x 44″, Minted, minted.com.

$239

3 Acrylic and metal Column **TABLE LAMP** with cotton shade in Polished Nickel, West Elm, westelm.com.

$1,315

4 Hans Wegner oil-finished oak and hand-woven paper cord Wishbone **SIDE CHAIR,** Design Within Reach, dwr.com.

$720

5 Linen blend Checkered Out **FABRIC** in Driftwood, $112 per yard, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com; **TABLE SKIRT SEWING** (with three box pleats), $160, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com.

$249

6 Jute, leather and cotton Shiva **RUG,** 5′ x 8′, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

$700

7 *Trees in the Morning 2* **ARTWORK** by Masood Omer, 22″ x 28″, Art Interiors, artinteriors.ca.

$1,200

8 Vintage ceramic **GINGER JAR,** per pair, Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

$195

9 Vintage ceramic **BOWL,** Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

$195

10 Antique ceramic lidded **JAR,** Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

LOW $2,421

$174

1 Whitewood eastern white pine click **FLOOR BOARDS,** 10′ x 6″ x 1″, $10.20 per board, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

$299

2 Framed horse **PRINT,** 40″ x 40″, HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$130

3 Canvas studded glass and brushed steel Sonia **TABLE LAMP** with polyester blend shade, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

$239

4 Beech and paper cord Denmark **SIDE CHAIR** in Beige, Structube, structube.com.

$204

5 Cotton Buffalo Check **FABRIC** in Putty, $33 per yard, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com; **TABLE SKIRT SEWING** (with one box pleat), $105, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com.

$150

6 Hand-loomed hemp and suede Overbrook **RUG** in Natural, 5′ x 8′, EQ3, eq3.com.

$550

7 *Kingston 14* **ARTWORK** by Ian Varney, 16″ x 20″, Canvas Gallery, canvasgallery.ca.

$595

8 Vintage ceramic **GINGER JAR,** per pair, Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

$65

9 Vintage ceramic **BOWL,** Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

$15

10 Vintage ceramic lidded **JAR,** Cynthia Findlay Antiques, cynthiafindlay.com.

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COLLECTION
HAS ARRIVED
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ELTE.COM TORONTO, CANADA

PLEAT-Y PLEASE

In addition to a centre pleated slit, the High console skirt features an elegant pleat at either corner for a fun decorative touch.

skirt the issue

Got an über-practical yet plain-Jane storage unit? Dress it up with a custom skirt. The stylish traditional element will add formal flair to the room while concealing the unit's contents (we've stocked ours with liquors and glassware to create an ersatz bar, but you can stash just about anything in yours). A glass top will finish the look and protect the fabric.

Linen blend Checkered Out **FABRIC** in Driftwood, $112 per yard, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com; **TABLE SKIRT SEWING** (with three box pleats), $160, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com; Kallax **SHELVING UNIT** in White, 30" x 58", $100, Capita **LEGS** in White, $15 per set of 4, IKEA, ikea.ca; custom glass **TABLETOP,** Canada Glass & Mirror Co., canadaglass.ca.

» **HIGH**

« **LOW**

SEEING CYLINDERS

With sophisticated transparent bases and chic cream-toned fabric shades, these classic **cylindrical table lamps** will suit any room. All that's left to match is your budget.

1. Aerin crystal Lineham with linen shade in Polished Nickel, Cocoon Furnishings, cocoon-furnishings.ca. **2.** Glass and aluminum French Column with linen shade in Polished Nickel, Restoration Hardware, rh.com. **3.** L2 Lighting glass and chrome-plated steel Chloe with linen shade, Lowe's, lowes.ca. **4.** Canvas studded glass and brushed steel Sonia with polyester blend shade, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Shop our Fall Collection online or at one of our 50+ stores across Canada.

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URBANBARN.COM

BLUE BLOOD

Blue and white ginger jars have held their position among decor royalty for centuries – impressive, considering their blue-collar roots. So named for their function of housing ginger and other spices in ancient China, the vessels have transcended utilitarianism and – more often than not – get to, well, sit there and look pretty. We love the casual look created by mixing the jars with an array of matching two-tone chinoiserie ceramics, such as an antique lidded jar, a vintage bowl and more recently produced plates and teacups (these are by time-honoured manufacturer Royal Copenhagen).

the one that got AWAY

Not every piece that suits our High or Low room sets makes the cut. This month, stylists Morgan Lindsay and Stacy Begg came across this sleek hurricane candle sconce just a little too late. "The product's brass finish would have glammed up the rustic, time-worn look a bit," says Morgan.

Brass-finished aluminum and blown glass wall-mounted Arlington **CANDLE SCONCE,** $79 US, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

from the ground up

Get ready to be floored: While our High tongue-and-groove wall treatment is fully faux (we bet the wood panel-look wallpaper had you fooled), the Low wall is clad in white-painted floorboards. Both options are simple DIYs that bear the country-chic aesthetic of shiplap panelling.

Floorboards are easy to install on a wall, as long as you know how to handle a hand drill and have some help balancing on a ladder.

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THE *Swede* LIFE

ON FUNCTIONAL DISPLAYS

Nestled beside the fireplace of this Scandi-rustic home is a built-in nook holding firewood. It lends warmth and texture to the white wall and is always stocked to help heat up cool nights spent relaxing on the sofa.

WITH FILES BY ANNA TRUELSEN

An affinity for the outdoors inspires this Swedish couple to create a bright and snug home with a cabin-in-the-woods vibe.

TEXT AMANDA ETTY | **PHOTOGRAPHY** CARINA OLANDER

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Elizabeth Arden
NEW YORK

ON SETTING THE TONE

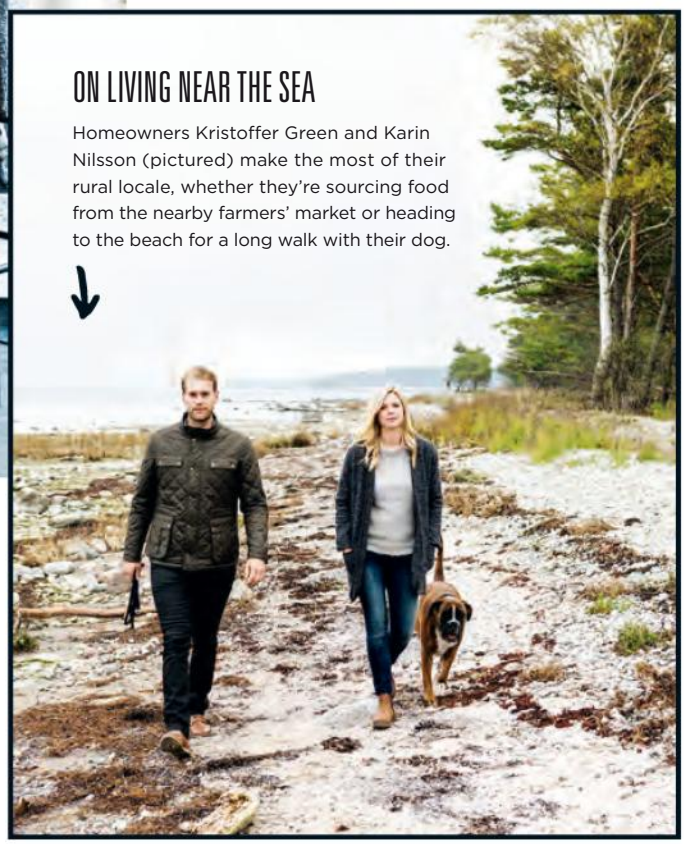
Bright and white with doses of black and organic touches, the entryway sets the decorative theme for the rest of the house. The homeowners cleverly repurposed found items into functional organizers, such as the wooden pallet that was transformed into a radiator cover and the drapery rod they converted into a coat rack using rope and hooks.

ON WARMING UP A MODERN KITCHEN

The kitchen's clean-lined IKEA cabinetry is complemented by edgy industrial accents like the pendant lights and stools. A wooden tongue-and-groove backsplash adds a rustic element that's in keeping with the rest of the home.

ON LIVING NEAR THE SEA

Homeowners Kristoffer Green and Karin Nilsson (pictured) make the most of their rural locale, whether they're sourcing food from the nearby farmers' market or heading to the beach for a long walk with their dog.



Karin Nilsson and Kristoffer Green live in a cozy, light-filled 1,600-square-foot home on Sweden's Gotland island with their baby and dog. The couple carefully chose this house near the village of Hemse as much for its proximity to the Baltic Sea as for its nearness to amenities like schools and recreational facilities. Since moving here, Karin and Kristoffer have created a warm and inviting space, complete with white-painted gypsum plaster walls, black window frames and whitewashed herringbone floors, and outfitted it with natural materials and family heirlooms. Here are the top take-aways from this rustic retreat by the sea.

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"We like to mix old and new. A home becomes more vivid when *its furniture tells a story.*"

ON MASTERING THE MIX

The dining room demonstrates Karin and Kristoffer's knack for blending old and new, using natural materials and creating interest by contrasting black and white elements. Here, inherited pieces sit alongside secondhand finds and newly purchased accessories and artwork, while the black-painted window frame draws the eye to the exterior view.

ON BRINGING THE OUTDOORS IN

The space's white and black envelope is softened with natural materials, such as wood, stone, leather and hemp. In the dining room, a gnarled branch leaning against a wall looks like an effortless organic sculpture.

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BARE BOHO

In this pared-back retail-turned-residential space, Toronto designer Shirley Meisels reveals the sleek side of bohemian decor.

TEXT MARY LEVITSKI

PHOTOGRAPHY STACEY BRANDFORD

STYLING ANN MARIE FAVOT & STACY BEGG

A simple vase holding a few verdant branches is a striking organic touch, an excellent example of the minimal yet thoughtful decor in Kyla Fox's spare but welcoming home.

DESIGN, MHouse, mhouseinc.com; Cloud White CC-40 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; *Field of Green* (left) and *Field of Sunlight* **ARTWORK** by Richard Herman, Art Interiors.

The airy whitewashed main floor impressed designer Shirley Meisels with its 10-foot ceilings but lacked character, so she layered the space with unique pieces. For instance, a metal-rod light fixture adds interest in the formal dining area without blocking sightlines.

LIGHT FIXTURE, Commute Design.

"This house is a natural extension of Kyla," says Shirley. Perhaps no space personifies the free-spirited homeowner as well as the family room. Globally inspired items, both old and new, all bear low-lustre finishes and earthy hues, lending a well-loved, lived-in feel.

SOFA, RUG, BOWL, Elte; **ARMCHAIRS,** Shelter; **SIDE-CHAIR FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics; **COFFEE TABLE,** Design Republic; **TABLE LAMP,** West Elm; four-legged wooden **STOOL,** EQ3; wooden cube **STOOL,** Stylegarage; potted fiddle-leaf fig **TREE,** Quince Flowers; canvas **PRINT, TOSS CUSHIONS,** HomeSense.

BELOW & BOTTOM
The white-on-white kitchen would decoratively fade away were it not grounded by black floor tiles and warmed up with wooden elements, such as the bowls and island base.

WHEN YOU CONVERT A RETAIL SPACE INTO A HOME, the result may fall short in the personality department. Though this midtown Toronto building had been transformed from cavernous convenience store to radiant residence years earlier, when Kyla Fox and her partner, Patrick Hembery, moved in last year, the 2,200-square-foot open-concept house still lacked hominess. Luckily, trusted designer Shirley Meisels was on their speed-dial.

Having beautified Kyla's previous abode and her eponymous eating disorder treatment centre, Shirley knows the homeowner through and through. Channelling the free-spirited gal ("I think I was a hippie in another life," quips Kyla), the designer energized the clean-lined white-walled space with eclectic furnishings and accessories in a variety of cozy textures, lively patterns and earthy tones. "I love friendly, collected interiors," says Kyla approvingly. However, the disciplined designer layered elements lightly, careful to avoid a cluttered feel.

"Our place is bohemian in nature, but it has a modern vibe," Kyla says, summarizing the fruits of Shirley's labour. "It's totally us." Perfectly suited to its owners, this unique property now has no dearth of warmth or character.

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STRUCTUBE

LEFT, ABOVE Aside from some blue-hued accessories, Shirley kept things white and light in the seriously small master bedroom. Even the artwork – a framed piece of canvas – is colourless.

NIGHTSTAND, ARTWORK, TABLE LAMP, West Elm; **DUVET SET,** navy **THROW,** floral **PILLOWCASE,** Elte; striped **TOSS CUSHION,** Anthropologie.

ABOVE The entryway is brilliantly sunlit, thanks to the wall-to-wall floor-to-ceiling windows left over from the area's days as a storefront. From the rough-hewn wooden console to the concrete-based table lamp to the evocative painting, each piece here is more intriguing than the last, yet nothing is superfluous, amounting to a warm welcome befitting this boho-chic Toronto home.

CONSOLE, Elte Market; **RUG,** Elte; **ARTWORK** by Gordon Runge, Burnett; **TABLE LAMP,** Royal Lighting; **BOWL,** West Elm.

LEFT "I love connecting to nature," says Kyla. "Living in the city, we're lucky to have two amazing outdoor spaces." This one, just off the kitchen, is modest in size but offers plenty of room for alfresco meals with family and friends alike. The neighbour's vine-clad house makes a fortuitous green backdrop.

Outdoor **DINING TABLE & BENCHES, END CHAIR,** Crate and Barrel; **LANTERNS, CARAFE, GLASSES,** IKEA.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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The vintage French chest, gilded mirror and sea urchin-patterned chairs make for a stunning welcome in the entryway, especially when paired with the gorgeous parquet that extends throughout the open-concept condo. Instead of sending the flooring to a landfill, designer Anne Hepfer had it refinished because it was in great shape.

DESIGN, Anne Hepfer Designs, annehepfer.com; Dune White CC-70 **WALL PAINT** (throughout main living areas), Benjamin Moore; **CHAIR FABRIC,** Lee Jofa; **RUG, SCULPTURE** (on tray), **BOWLS** (on countertop), Elte; **TABLE LAMP,** Ribbehege & Azevedo.

a fine ART

A designer brings serenity to a condo belonging to a pair of lifelong art collectors.

TEXT IRIS BENAROIA

PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

STYLING ANN MARIE FAVOT

Incorporating art collections into interiors can be tricky for designers. They need to honour the works while delivering a design that reflects the lifestyle and decor preferences of their clients. Ultimately, the result should express the taste and passion of the collectors.

The owners of this Toronto condo devoted three decades to scooping up art and *objets* – particularly Asian, African and Canadian pieces – on their travels around the world. The beloved treasures, along with a lifetime's worth of stuff in general, were starting to encroach on their space, which had other issues: A wall divided the kitchen from the living room, creating a jail-like atmosphere for the person prepping meals; the kitchen itself was shabby; and the two bathrooms were in equally rough shape.

"Dark, cluttered and dated" is how designer Anne Hepfer describes the state of the original 1,500-square-foot condo, which she had completely gutted and opened up. Fortunately, the unit had one redeeming quality: a row of large south-facing windows.

While Anne's clients can pick out an Inuit carving in a flash, when it comes to decorating, they're stumped. "Over the years, we've bought many things that were just poor choices," says one of the homeowners. "I would highly recommend hiring a designer because it actually saves money." That said, the vintage kilims they brought back from Morocco and the Middle East, boasting pale pink, soft grey and earthy brown hues, served as the starting point for the condo's palette, proving to be one of the homeowners' better purchases. Anne made toss cushions out of these textiles ("They add an exotic flourish," she says) and then, to really up the ante, turned to the drama of the runway. "I looked to Italian fashion designer Brunello Cucinelli's elegant use of neutrals, which translates so beautifully to interiors," says Anne. She also accented the space with hits of black for contrast and mixed metals for sparkle.

As in Brunello Cucinelli's collections, a thread of understated luxury stitches the rooms together: a vintage French chest in

ABOVE The living room boasts two sitting areas: one with a soft grey linen sofa and two armchairs and the other with four velvety pale pink chenille swivel club chairs, all designed by Anne herself (pictured left). "I love incorporating natural materials into a space because it lends an earthy element," she says.

SOFA & CHAIR FABRICS, Primavera; **COFFEE TABLE,** Oly; mirrored **SIDE TABLES,** West Elm; **TABLE LAMP,** Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams; brass **BOWL,** Elte.

RIGHT The small kitchen features a practical back-painted glass backsplash and Caesarstone countertops. Anne ripped out the wall that separated the kitchen from the living room and installed a bar-height counter to open up the space.

Dune White CC-70 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **COUNTERTOPS,** Caesarstone Canada; **SINK, FAUCET,** Kohler; **CUTTING BOARD, PITCHER,** Elte.

GEOMETRIC MONOCHROME

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LEFT & BELOW The master bedroom has a cocoon-like vibe thanks to its monochromatic mix of textures and patterns. The vintage nightstand was given a coat of warm grey paint, which perfectly complements the artwork by David Fisher.

Gray Mist CC-80 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **RECLINER,** Avenue Road; **RECLINER FABRIC,** Primavera; **HEADBOARD FABRIC,** Lee Jofa; Hardwick White 5 **NIGHTSTAND PAINT,** Farrow & Ball; **DRAPERY FABRIC,** Threadcount Textile & Design; taupe **COVERLET, THROW** (on recliner), Elte; **FLOOR LAMP,** Arteriors Home; **SCONCE,** Restoration Hardware.

RIGHT Evoking a casual feel, the den is decked out with an antique desk and a chaise that's perfect for watching TV.

Anew Gray SW 7030 **WALL PAINT,** Sherwin-Williams; **CHAISE FABRIC,** Primavera; **DESK CHAIR,** West Elm; **SCONCES,** Robert Abbey; **THROW, SCULPTURE** (on desk), Elte.

"The bedroom has this SUBTLE, QUIET, ELEGANT feel to it."

the entryway, a quartet of plush pink club chairs in the living area and a headboard upholstered in Kelly Wearstler fabric in the master bedroom, to name a few. As for the homeowners' vast art collection? Anne worked her magic, thoughtfully layering items in the form of vignettes, creating special moments throughout the condo.

"I really love how this project evolved," says Anne. "It was a joy, putting together the pieces of the puzzle, editing and using a lot of restraint." The easiest thing she could have done, of course, was store it all and start fresh, but that wouldn't have been an authentic way to honour this professional couple's passion for art and travel. "Including my clients' unique collection into the design," says Anne, "makes the space personal, warm, inviting – and theirs."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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PIECE BY PIECE

A resourceful designer with a knack for all things DIY creates a cozy and contemporary space for her family of four.

TEXT BRITTANY DEVENYI
PHOTOGRAPHY ASHLEY CAPP

In celebration of IKEA Canada's 40th anniversary, Style at Home has partnered with the iconic brand for the ultimate room makeover.

We will be choosing two lucky readers from across Canada to win a bedroom, living room or dining room makeover designed by the Style at Home team using IKEA furniture and accessories. The results will be featured in a future issue of Style at Home.

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

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No purchase necessary. Contest starts August 23, 2016, and ends September 25, 2016. Contest is open to all legal residents of Canada, 18 years of age or older. There are two (2) grand prizes available to be won. Winners must be available for the makeover from October 11 – November 30, 2016. Odds of winning depend on number of eligible entries received. Visit **styleathome.com/sahmakeover** for complete contest rules and entry requirements.

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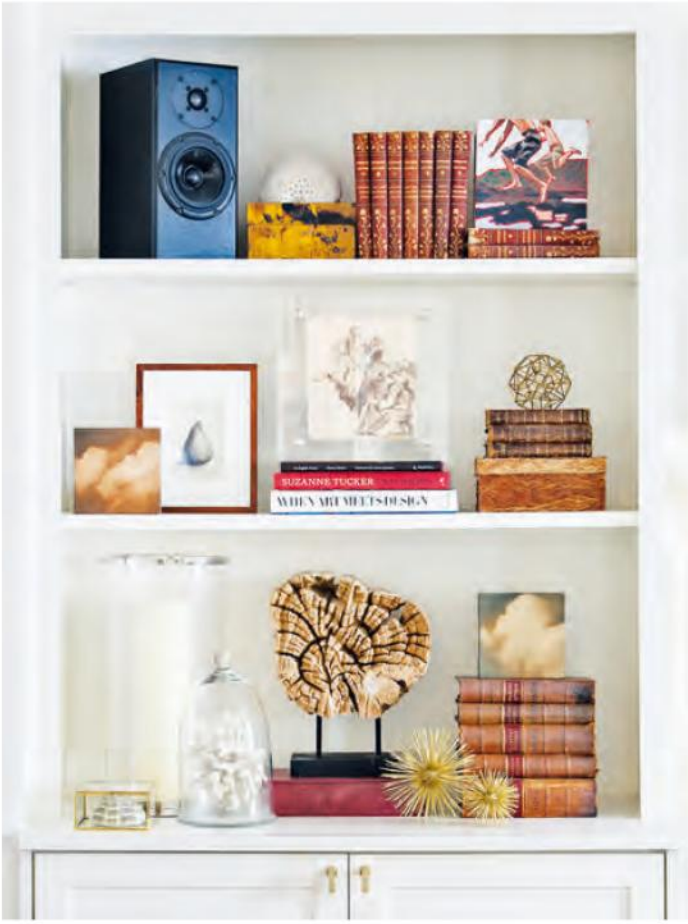
For the design inclined, recognizing beautiful pieces is easy enough, but the real decorating challenge comes from knowing how to fit all the elements together in a harmonious way. Designer Sarah Walker has this down to a science. Last year, the reno expert transformed her Oakville, Ont., home's uninspiring family room into a sophisticated space boasting symmetry and style. "I wanted a modern yet classic room that balances the masculine and feminine qualities of our family," she says, referring to her husband, Graham, and two boys (Noah, 13, and Tate, 2).

Having already installed the hardwood flooring and built-in wall unit with her husband five years prior, Sarah's next order of business was the furniture layout. "I always pictured this space having a pair of sofas facing each other," says the designer. "I love the conversational quality the set-up brings to a room."



ABOVE The custom white oak coffee table lends an organic vibe to the family room and calls attention to the tall stack of logs tucked into the wall unit. "With a wood-burning fireplace, you want the logs to be close by so you're not dragging bark everywhere," says designer and homeowner Sarah Walker. "The display also has visual impact and adds warmth."

RIGHT For Sarah, a beautifully styled bookshelf relies on meaning just as much as placement and scale. "It's important to tell your story through your space," she says, referring to objects she added that were collected over time, from a sea urchin found in a quirky San Francisco shop to a sepia sketch purchased on the streets of Paris during her first trip there with her husband.

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RIGHT Playing with contrasting shapes, Sarah created a chic coffee table vignette using curved accents, including a vintage silver tray and a faceted black vase, to temper the sharp edges of the surface. "Bringing in round, soft elements is really important when you're working with a room that has a lot of hard geometry," says the designer.

BELOW Since this family of four has a penchant for the outdoors, the designer incorporated nature-inspired finds, such as the large print depicting a foggy forest hanging above the fireplace. "The image reminds me of being in the woods and escaping the everyday," says Sarah. She had the piece stretched onto canvas and then resined to deliver more of an ethereal effect.

Sarah and her husband upgraded their fireplace with a striking custom herringbone tile treatment.

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"I wanted a ***modern yet classic room*** *that balances the masculine and feminine qualities of our family."*

So she traded in her existing brown sectional for two handsome black velvet sofas and added a geometric-print rug to further delineate the sitting area. This design choice drew her toward a timeless marble herringbone tile treatment for the fireplace, which echoes the graphic quality of the rug but on a smaller scale (with budget top of mind, Sarah and Graham even installed the tile themselves). Other subtle additions to the fireplace like the contrasting white mantel and the curved screen enhance the unit's bold and beautiful aesthetic.

Next up was deciding what to make of an empty alcove set in the wall opposite the fireplace. In an act of creative daring, the deft DIYer transformed the space into a stylish office nook. Sarah began by making an elegant-meets-edgy pin board out of embossed reptile-patterned velvet fabric and then punctuated the look with antiqued brass nails before adding a floating desk and shelf. "The pin board blends in well with the room's ikat wallpaper but still makes a visual statement that anchors the work area," she says.

After mastering the layout, the designer reinforced the room's romantic and rustic feel with tasteful details like luxurious sheepskin pieces and natural wooden elements, ensuring each family member feels equally at home. "We spend just as much time here as we did before," says Sarah, "but now we enjoy it 10 times as much." That's all the evidence we need that this master curator has done it again.

LEFT Fashioning an inspiring and orderly work area came easily to Sarah thanks in part to location. "When a communal workspace is integrated into a kitchen, it winds up becoming a clutter collector," she says. "But in the family room, it's a bit more removed from that initial drop of mail and keys."

DESIGN, The Curated House by Sarah Walker, thecuratedhouse.com; Creamy SW 7012 **MILLWORK PAINT,** Sherwin-Williams; ikat **WALLPAPER,** Thibaut at Kravet Canada; custom velvet **SOFAS, DRAPERY,** python-print **TOSS CUSHION, PIN BOARD, LUMBAR CUSHION & SEAT CUSHION FABRIC,** Kravet Canada; mahogany **CHAIR,** Lamps Plus; rolling **CABINETS,** IKEA; custom herringbone marble **FIREPLACE SURROUND TILES,** Creekside Tile; **MOULDINGS** (used for mantel), Metrie; **DRAPERY, TOSS CUSHION, SEAT CUSHION** (on chair) **& LUMBAR CUSHION SEWING,** Hollie Cooper Interiors; sheepskin **RUG,** Costco; landscape **PRINT** (customized, over fireplace), Anewall; *Angel 4* **ARTWORK** (on window wall) by Zena Holloway, Citizen Atelier; framed landscape *PlasBrondanw_BBC1* **ARTWORK** by David Graham White, *Babushka (Blue)* **ARTWORK** (in office nook) by Amy Friend, Art Interiors; Louvre and swimming **PRINTS,** Minted; **FLOOR LAMP,** CB2; **TABLE LAMPS,** West Elm; lambskin **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Fibre by Auskin; **FIREPLACE SCREEN,** Anvil Fireside; custom black and white **PICTURE FRAMES,** Framed & Matted; brushed brass **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Upper Canada Speciality Hardware.

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OCTOBER 2016

PHOTOGRAPHY, JANIS NICOLAY

BARE IS BEAUTIFUL

There's something to be said for a season with less light, greenery and warmth than the one that comes before it. While summer is filled with long hours of sunshine, bountiful blooms and blisteringly hot days, autumn has its own sublime pleasures. Never has the adage "less is more" seemed more apropos.

THE GREAT ESCAPE

TEXT SARA CATION | **PHOTOGRAPHY** STACEY BRANDFORD

In the living room of this cozy modern cabin at the southern tip of Ontario's Lake Simcoe, simple details like white oak flooring, artwork reminiscent of a sunset and an antique antler pay homage to the surrounding wilderness.

ARCHITECTURE, Superkül; **CONTRACTING,** Duffy & Associates Design Build; **FLOORING** (throughout main living area), Moncer Specialty Flooring; **SIDE TABLES** (used as coffee table), Crate and Barrel; **LOUNGER,** IKEA; *Transitus #2* **ARTWORK** by Florian Müller, YellowKorner Art Gallery.

Surrounded by grandkids – but with a quiet spot all his own – this cottager has created the chic retreat of his dreams.

Sometimes, you need a retreat *within* your retreat – especially when the serene cottage you purchased for your young family more than 40 years ago is today teeming with energetic grandchildren (nine under the age of 10, to be exact).

One Torontonian bought his original cottage on Lake Simcoe in the early '70s, when his own three kids were less than 10 years old. There, the siblings filled those lazy, hazy days of summer with quintessential Canadian cottage experiences, such as learning to swim, spotting wildlife and roasting marshmallows. But now that the owner's kids have their own kids, the laughs and crafts, games of tag and, yes, inevitable tears are sometimes too much.

The low-lying single-storey building is clad in rustic cedar siding that blends beautifully with the landscape. It also boasts a wraparound deck that takes advantage of the varied scenery.

OUTDOOR FURNITURE, Crate and Barrel.

OPPOSITE, TOP "The passage linking the new cabin to the original log cottage is particularly compelling," says architect Andre D'Elia. "Awash in natural light, it offers both east and west views of the property, encouraging pause and reflection along with an appreciation of the wildlife."

FLOOR TILES, Stone Tile International.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM A long, sculptural naturally felled branch brings the outdoors in and captures the magic of autumn, when the surrounding trees transform into a mosaic of yellow, orange and red.

Wanting to stay close to his family but also enjoy the serene lakeside living, the homeowner envisioned a brilliant solution: to build a cabin (which would be his and his alone) beside the original bungalow (which he'd let his children and grandchildren take over).

So in 2010 he hired the Toronto-based architectural firm Superkül and designer Stacy Begg to create his kids-free bunkie: an 840-square-foot two-bedroom space that boasts its own private entry, kitchenette, bathroom and deck, and is connected to the cottage via a long glass-walled walkway. "The addition is contemporary, pure and minimalistic – yet warm," says Andre D'Elia, the principal architect. And that's precisely what the homeowner, an avid reader of modern architecture magazines like *Dwell*, wanted. "Plus, the quiet, restrained design allows the majesty of the setting to dominate," says Andre.

Though several decades separate the modern cabin from the original log cottage, the two are stylistically linked through their ample use of wood, which also blends the new building into its sylvan surroundings. To further blur the lines between indoors and out, hard-wearing cedar decking was stained to match the white oak interior flooring, which seems to extend right outside the huge windows.

"The contemporary pale wood finishes paired with white-painted

RIGHT The minimalistic office nook takes advantage of a sunny corner in the master bedroom. Sunset-coloured orchids on the desk echo the shades of fall.

DESK CHAIR, IKEA.

BELOW & OPPOSITE Simple details like layered bed linens and a plush faux-fur rug usher in autumn.

NIGHTSTAND, IKEA; **BEDDING,** Au Lit Fine Linens; **TOSS CUSHION,** Tonic Living.

walls make it a soothing home-away-from-home in which the owner can unwind and de-stress," says Andre. But this doting grandfather is never completely removed. He eats almost every meal with the main-cottage clan, which often swells to more than 15 people; and when he's ready for even more action, he visits the adults sunning on the dock or invites his grandchildren over to watch a movie before bed.

As much as the cottage is, for kids, about running barefoot, collecting caterpillars and spending all day swimming, for adults, it's about something entirely different: listening to the leaves rustling in the wind and the waves lapping the shore, watching sunrises and sunsets, taking deep breaths of fresh air and simply slowing down. But it's wonderful to have little ones around to remind you of what it used to be about.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

"THE QUIET, RESTRAINED DESIGN ALLOWS THE MAJESTY OF THE SETTING TO DOMINATE."

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

It's no surprise that a designer wife and contractor husband are a dazzling home renovation dream team, but how they make their place so comfy and collected is rooted in their histories.

DESIGN, Riesco & Lapres Interior Design, riescolapres.com; **CONTRACTING,** Lapres Homes; Icicle 2142-70 **WALL PAINT** (throughout main living areas), Benjamin Moore; **FLOORING** (throughout, except bedroom and bathroom), European Touch Hardwood.

TEXT LAURA MUIR
PHOTOGRAPHY JANIS NICOLAY

The living room of this Vancouver home features an eclectic mix that's meaningful to its homeowners: The coffee table is an old dining table with its legs cut down; the curvaceous settee came from a client of homeowner and designer Rebecca Lapres; and the side table was made by one of her brothers from a cedar stump cut down in the 1800s.

Custom **SOFA SLIPCOVER,** Pull & Staple; **SETTEE FABRIC,** Lee Jofa; black **FLOOR LAMP,** The Cross Decor & Design; **TABLE LAMP,** Once a Tree Furniture; cream **TOSS CUSHION** (on settee), Rothman & Co.

In the entryway, a 200-year-old cabinet serves as Rebecca's purse closet. Accessories like the naturally shed antler and the beaver stick lend the space an organic touch that reflects Rebecca's West Coast upbringing. "We found that stick on the beach," she says, "so it has a beautiful texture from the beavers chewing on it and then from being tossed around in the ocean."

Coventry Gray HC-169 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Robinson Lighting & Bath Centre.

LEFT Rebecca curls up on her cozy living room settee.

LEFT, BOTTOM Bookcases in the living room add character and frame the doorway into the home office. "I love books," says Rebecca. "A lot of mine are non-fiction titles on travel and art, as well as a little bit of poetry."

RIGHT The settee in the home office is the perfect spot to curl up with a good read and a cup of tea. A wall of artwork offers inspiration. "Most of the art I buy is from non-professionals, and they're all fairly old pieces," says Rebecca. "For instance, I have a watercolour of the Galata Bridge in Istanbul painted by a British traveller in the 1920s. It's a very evocative painting for me."

It was a financial decision that initiated Rebecca and Peter Lapres's "great creative adventure." Three years ago, they were living in a 70-year-old house on a large piece of land on Vancouver's west side when they took heed of the escalating real estate prices and decided to cash out and relocate to the city's relatively less expensive east side. "We didn't think it was a good idea to have so much money tied up in a property," says Rebecca.

They discovered an old neglected teardown on a standard-sized lot in an up-and-coming neighbourhood and bought it right then and there. Why, you might ask? Well, Rebecca is a principal at Riesco & Lapres Interior Design, and Peter is a residential contractor and home builder. So the duo, a veritable dream team of home building, knew they could create a house from scratch that perfectly suited their busy family (which includes three children, three cats and a dog). The seven-month process resulted in this 2,900-square-foot three-storey urban cottage teeming with charm.

A passion for everything time-worn and timeless inspired Rebecca to design a space that combines aspects of a previous era, including a strong respect for craftsmanship, with a refined feel. "I don't see any reason for having to go modern if you're building a new

house," she says. "We wanted ours to feel more established and traditional, but with a fresh look."

Eschewing contemporary architecture also meant bucking the trend of open-concept floor plans. Having lived in London for about two years, the couple became accustomed to narrow Victorian rowhouses that were tiny but still boasted separate rooms. For Rebecca, it was important to define formal and informal spaces, and to create cozy nooks where one could get away – resulting in plenty of wall space for art and furniture. It's a practical sentiment, but it also appeals to the designer's sense of playfulness and creativity. "I like interiors where there is a bit of mystery; where you wonder, 'What's around that corner?'" she says. "And you find little surprises and quirky touches that feel like an *aha!* discovery."

BELOW & RIGHT Open to the kitchen, the dining room is classic and striking, its neutral shades energized by splashes of juicy jewel tones. An old table with an ebonized finish is surrounded by light-toned Windsor dining chairs. "I searched for chairs forever," says Rebecca. "I wanted them to look like they came from a junk store – vintage, humble and simple."

DINING CHAIRS, EQ3; **ARMCHAIR FABRIC,** Pace Fabrics; **ARMCHAIR UPHOLSTERY,** Luxcious Upholstery; antique **ARTWORK,** Joyce Williams Antique Prints and Maps; custom **PENDANT LIGHT,** The Victoria Lampshade Shop; **TOSS CUSHION,** Once a Tree Furniture; **THROW,** West Elm.

The kitchen exemplifies the home's fresh yet traditional aesthetic thanks to elements like the grey-painted Shaker-style cabinetry, honed marble subway tile backsplash, engineered quartz countertop and stainless steel appliances. The brass and powder-coated steel pendant lights and time-worn wooden stools add a vintage vibe.

Custom **CABINETRY,** Capital Millwork; **COUNTERTOPS,** Silestone; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Toorak Tile & Design; **APPLIANCES,** Midland Appliance; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co.; **FAUCET,** Kohler; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Cantu Bathrooms & Hardware.

"I like interiors where there is a bit of mystery; where you wonder, 'WHAT'S AROUND THAT CORNER?'"

The petite home office provides a place for Rebecca to do paperwork. "It's my answer to having a desk nook in the kitchen," she says.

DESK, IKEA.

LEFT The large foyer is defined by board and batten siding that adds traditional character and offers a distinctive look. "I wanted to give the entryway a sense of significance," explains Rebecca. "I wanted it to say, 'Come into my house. Let me take your coat.'"

LEFT, BOTTOM The master bath's built-in vanity, with its drawers and turned legs, looks like a stand-alone piece of furniture. It's made of quarter-sawn oak stained brown and brushed with a black glaze. "It has a nice depth and rich patina," says Rebecca.

White Wisp OC-54 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; custom **VANITY,** Capital Millwork; **COUNTERTOP,** Aeon Stone + Tile; **FAUCET, VANITY HARDWARE,** Cantu Bathrooms & Hardware; **FLOOR TILES,** Stone Tile International; **SCONCES,** Visual Comfort & Co.; custom **MIRROR,** Browning & Company Picture Framing; **TOWEL,** Örling & Wu.

RIGHT In the master bedroom, the side table lends an exotic Moorish look while the avian-motif bedding offers a hit of whimsy.

White Wisp OC-54 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; custom **BED FRAME,** Van Gogh Designs; **BED FRAME FABRIC,** Pace Fabrics; **SIDE TABLE, PRINT,** The Cross Decor & Design; **DUVET SET,** Thomaspaul; **COVERLET,** Inform Interiors; **CARPET,** Burritt Bros. Carpet & Floors.

A place full of surprises and discoveries is in fact the perfect description for this house, which reflects the couple's adventurous lives and sense of wonder. Furnishings and accessories were amassed over time – there are gifts from friends and relatives and items found at vintage stores and junk shops or during their stint in Europe – and most have a story. The rug in the kitchen, for example, was found in the '80s during the nine months the couple lived in Turkey; the pottery pieces on the living room mantel were created by Rebecca's late great-aunt, Hilda Ross, who taught in the fine art department at the University of British Columbia; and the entryway cabinet, which is used as a purse closet, came from the "beach shack" the pair rented while this place was being built. "There was an Englishwoman living there before us," explains Rebecca, "and she sold me the cabinet for $150!"

This refined eclecticism – inspired by the rich, saturated sense of history Rebecca loves about London and by her outdoorsy West Coast ethos – fits the duo to a T. "I liken this house to the way I feel when I'm wearing very comfortable clothing," she says. "There's no stretch for me. I'm not pushing any boundaries. It's simply my definition of home."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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in VOGUE

A fashionable Toronto couple treat their stylish abode as an ever-evolving runway that offers opportunities to strike a decorative pose using their chic collection.

TEXT SARA CATION | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ASHLEY CAPP
STYLING CHRISTINE DOVEY

Designer Matthew Meisner had sections of his Rorschach ink blot test-inspired wallpaper blown up and framed as art for his dining area. It makes for lively dinner discussions: "Everyone has an opinion of what they see," says Matthew, "and it's not always rated PG!"

DESIGN, Heirloom & Knot, heirloomandknot.com; Simply White OC-117 **WALL PAINT** (throughout main living areas), Benjamin Moore; Saarinen **DINING TABLE,** Wishbone **DINING CHAIRS,** Design Within Reach; cowhide **RUG,** Elte; brass **ICE BUCKET,** Black Rooster Decor.

BELOW Matthew knew he needed a large-scale piece of art to balance the white three-storey-high entryway wall, so he simply created one. "I was feeling inspired and painted over a canvas print we had lying around," he says. "I'm not an artist, but I broke out the paints and just gave it a try!"

Studded **TRAY,** Elte.

BOTTOM Fashionable fiancés Rick Bettencourt and Matthew (seated) pose in the living room of their downtown Toronto home.

A lot can happen in a year. At this time last year – September, to be exact – designer Matthew Meisner, owner of design firm Heirloom & Knot, moved into a new home in downtown Toronto with his partner, Rick Bettencourt, and Rick's daughters, Milena, 15, and Celeste, 11, who live there part-time. The 2,100-square-foot three-storey ultra-modern abode had great architectural character and, even better, had recently been renovated. All that it required was a coat of white paint, warm wood elements and a healthy dose of personality – of which the couple has plenty.

Art collectors, travellers and curators of quirky vintage finds, the two are fashion savvy to boot. Rick is vice-president of Nine West Canada, so even though Matthew is the professional designer, he still lets stylish Rick provide plenty of input. "I want it to feel like we both contributed equally to the look," says Matthew.

Take, for example, the wallpapers and textiles on display throughout the home: Most are designed by Matthew for his Heirloom & Knot collection but selected for the interior by his hubby-to-be. "It's like choosing between my own children," says Matthew. "I can't

A dramatic departure from the crisp white envelope of the main living space, the kitchen is decidedly dark. Warming up the existing cabinetry is vinyl wallpaper Matthew designed and named after Rick: Bettencourt Series 2. "It's durable and easy to switch out should we want a new look in the future," says Matthew.

WALLPAPER, Heirloom & Knot; **STOOLS,** Pier 1 Imports; sheepskin **THROWS,** Black Rooster Decor.

Matthew lugged the huge deer head on the plane home from his parents' cottage in Winnipeg. "It's been in my family for ages," he explains. "My great-uncle accidentally hit the deer with his car when he was young." The bust has lived with Matthew's grandparents and parents and now acts as the perfect pairing for the tartan wool-upholstered sofa in the living room, lending a rustic cabin vibe to this modern eclectic space.

SOFA FABRIC, King Textiles; **SIDE CHAIRS,** Structube; **RUG,** Elte; sheepskin **THROW,** Serena & Lily; **LUMBAR CUSHION,** Heirloom & Knot; black, white and grey **TOSS CUSHION,** H&M Home; black and white **TOSS CUSHION,** cream **TOSS CUSHIONS,** HomeSense.

pick favourites, so I leave that to Rick." The open-concept space is also decorated with relics of the couple's past, from the antique kitchen scale that was one of the first pieces they purchased together ("out of the garage of a random guy we met on Craigslist," says the designer with a laugh) to the framed fashion show invites in the powder room (not shown) collected during Rick's days working as the womens- and menswear director for Holt Renfrew (Prada and Hermès and Alexander McQueen, oh my!). Art purchased on vacations, knick-knacks picked out at antiques markets and a real deer head that's been in Matthew's family for years all lend the home its eclectic character while clearly reflecting the fashion-forward couple. "Anywhere we turn in our home, we see something that makes us smile," says Matthew, noting that there are memories tied to almost every object in their house.

And it's always evolving. "If I were to describe our home in a sentence," says Matthew, "I'd say, 'It's curated over time and never finished.'" The two buy new pieces whenever something catches their eyes and, as a result, the decor rotates almost twice monthly. "What it looks like now is very different from these pictures," says Matthew, explaining that while big furniture items stay the same, smaller finds flow in and out. The artwork exhibited on the master bedroom's feature wall is seemingly

switched out more often than that of a commercial gallery, and textiles are turned over seasonally.

Though their house's interior decor shifts many times in one year, it always feels like home. "We've brought in things from former jobs, from frequent travels and from day-to-day life," says Matthew. "It's the celebration of everything that has brought us to this point in our lives."

It's fitting, because almost one year after moving into their dream home, Matthew and Rick will mark another milestone with their September 2016 wedding. And judging by how their two styles harmonize so perfectly here in this home, we'd say they're a match made in heaven. Chin-chin!

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

LEFT The wall tiles in the master bath are a spin on the classic checkerboard look and a clever design hack – Matthew simply cut adhesive kitchen shelf liner into triangles and stuck it to the existing white tiles (which never get wet).

BENCH, IKEA.

BELOW & BOTTOM LEFT
"I love that the bed frame's cane detail has old-world character while the shape is Mid-Century Modern," says Matthew, who introduces layers of history into his designs.

Jet Black 2120-10 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **BED FRAME,** CB2; **SIDE TABLE,** Bouclair; **RUG,** WC The Store; *Head Study on Grey* **ARTWORK,** Mike Rachlis; abstract **PRINT,** Hudson's Bay; agate **PRINT,** HomeSense.

FULL *plates*

"Food should be fun – and it should be embraced in its entirety, from planning to eating." That's the philosophy behind *Plated*, the new cookbook by Elana Karp and Suzanne Dumaine that follows on the heels of the successful New York City-based food-delivery business of the same name – and it's a motto we at *Style at Home* can definitely get behind. To demonstrate, we've culled a few make-ahead dishes from this inspiring tome that make our mouths water.

RECIPES ELANA KARP & SUZANNE DUMAINE

PHOTOGRAPHY ROBERT BREDVAD

SLOW-SIMMERED TURKEY CHILI
with Poblano, White Beans & Baked Tortilla Chips

WHITE LASAGNA WITH BUTTERNUT SQUASH, KALE & MUSHROOMS

SERVES **4**

- 8 oz cremini mushrooms, trimmed and quartered
- 1 lb cubed butternut squash
- 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 2 bunches kale
- 2 cloves garlic
- 8 tbsp unsalted butter
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- 4 cups whole milk
- ⅛ tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 cup grated Parmesan, divided
- 2 9-oz packages no-boil lasagna noodles
- ½ cup shredded Gruyère cheese

Preheat the oven to 425°F. On a baking sheet, toss the mushrooms and squash with 2 tablespoons of the olive oil and salt and pepper. Arrange in a single layer and roast until tender, about 18 minutes.

While the vegetables roast, strip the stems from the kale leaves, then cut the leaves into bite-sized pieces. Thinly slice the garlic.

In a large pan, heat the remaining olive oil over medium heat until shimmering. Add the kale and garlic and cook until the kale is wilted and bright green, about 4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper; set aside.

Remove the roasted mushrooms and squash from the oven and reduce the oven temperature to 400°F. Using a fork or spoon, mash the squash.

To make the béchamel sauce, melt the butter in a saucepan over medium heat. When the butter is foamy, sprinkle in the flour and whisk until the mixture is smooth and golden, about 2 minutes. Slowly pour in the milk, whisking continuously, until no lumps remain. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until the sauce is thick and coats the back of a spoon, 6 to 7 minutes. Season with the nutmeg, salt and pepper. Add ¼ cup of the Parmesan, stirring to combine; remove the pot from the heat.

Spread a thin layer of the béchamel sauce over the bottom of a 9" x 13" baking dish. Add a layer of the lasagna noodles, followed by a layer of squash and mushrooms, the kale, more sauce and a sprinkle of Parmesan. Repeat to make 2 more layers: noodles, vegetables, sauce and Parmesan. Top with a final layer of noodles and the remaining béchamel sauce. Sprinkle with the remaining Parmesan and the Gruyère.

Loosely cover the dish with foil, transfer to the oven and bake until the lasagna is bubbling, about 30 minutes. Increase the oven temperature to 450°F. Uncover the lasagna and continue baking until golden, about 10 minutes longer.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely before cutting into pieces. Wrap with foil and store in the fridge for up to 5 days or in the freezer for up to 1 month. To reheat, microwave the lasagna or warm it, covered, in the oven at 350°F.

WHITE LASAGNA *with Butternut Squash, Kale & Mushrooms*

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Beer-Braised
PULLED CHICKEN

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SLOW-SIMMERED TURKEY CHILI WITH POBLANO, WHITE BEANS & BAKED TORTILLA CHIPS

SERVES 4

- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1½ lbs ground turkey
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 2 poblano chilis
- 2 yellow onions, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 2 tsp chili powder
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups canned white beans, drained and rinsed
- 6 corn tortillas, cut into 8 wedges each
- 1 cup whole milk
- 2 plum tomatoes, diced, for garnish
- ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese, for garnish

Preheat the oven to 425°F. In a large pot, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium heat. When the oil is shimmering, add the turkey and season with salt and pepper. Cook the turkey for about 10 minutes, breaking it up with a wooden spoon as it browns.

Add the poblanos, onions and garlic to the turkey and cook until the onions are soft and translucent, about 5 minutes. Stir in the cumin, oregano and chili powder; cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Stir in the stock and the beans. Increase the heat to high and bring the mixture to a boil; reduce the heat to medium and simmer until thickened, 30 to 40 minutes.

Meanwhile, toss the tortilla wedges on a baking sheet with the remaining olive oil. Season with salt and bake until golden and crisp, about 15 minutes.

Add the milk to the chili, stirring to combine, and increase the heat to medium-high. Simmer until warmed through, 4 to 5 minutes. Taste and add salt and pepper as needed. Allow the chili to cool completely, then refrigerate, covered, for up to 4 days, or transfer portions to airtight containers and freeze for up to 1 month.

To reheat the chili, place it in a medium pot and warm, covered, over medium heat. Keep the tortilla chips in an airtight container at room temperature until ready to serve, up to 2 days.

Before serving, garnish with the tomatoes, cheese and tortilla chips.

BEER-BRAISED PULLED CHICKEN

SERVES 4

- 1 canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce
- 1½ tsp paprika
- ¼ tsp cayenne pepper
- 2 tbsp canola oil
- 8 bone-in skinless chicken thighs
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 yellow onion, thinly sliced
- 3 sprigs fresh oregano
- 3 tbsp apple cider vinegar
- 1½ tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tbsp dark brown sugar
- 1 15-oz can crushed tomatoes
- 1 12-oz bottle lager-style beer
- Guacamole, for serving

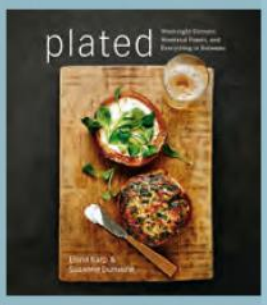
Chop the chipotle pepper and set aside along with 1 tablespoon of the adobo sauce (reserve the rest of the can for another use). In a small bowl, stir together the paprika and cayenne; set aside.

In a large high-sided pan, set the canola oil over medium-high heat. Rub the chicken with the paprika mixture and season both sides with salt and pepper. When the oil is shimmering, add the chicken, flesh side down, in a single layer. Sear until the chicken is golden on the outside, 4 to 5 minutes per side. Transfer to a plate and set aside.

Add the onion and oregano leaves to the pan over medium heat and cook until the onion is soft and translucent, about 5 minutes. Add the vinegar and Worcestershire sauce and cook until reduced by half, 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the brown sugar, tomatoes, beer, chopped chipotle and adobo sauce and stir to combine. Increase the heat to high and bring the mixture to a boil, then return the chicken to the pan. Cover, reduce the heat to medium-low and braise until the chicken is pulling away from the bone, about 1 hour.

Remove the chicken from the pan and set aside. Simmer the braising liquid, uncovered, over medium-high heat until reduced by half, about 10 minutes. Meanwhile, using two forks or tongs, shred the chicken meat into bite-sized pieces, discarding the bones. Return the chicken to the reduced braising liquid and stir to combine. Allow the chicken to cool completely and store in the fridge for up to four days. Alternatively, transfer portions of the chicken to airtight containers and freeze for up to a month. To reheat, place the desired amount with sauce in a medium pot and warm, covered, over medium heat. Serve the guacamole alongside the chicken.



To see more delicious make-ahead recipes, check out *Plated* (Clarkson Potter/Publishers, $33).

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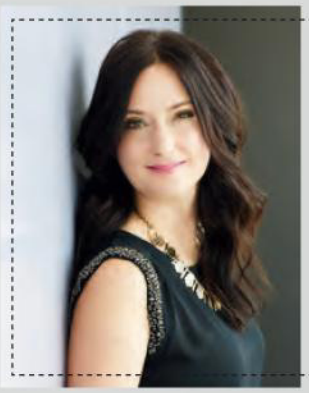
styleathome

Editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin curated her favourite hues in the **Beauti-Tone Paint Style at Home Country Colour Collection 2.**



OLDENBURG FD083-0

Erin loves how this blue-grey paint acts as a sophisticated neutral backdrop for any setting, from modern to traditional.

tip: Make an inexpensive piece of furniture appear custom by painting it the same shade as your wall. This coffee table was given an extra decorator's touch with the addition of a complementary colour: **Hudson FD099-0.**

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aeonstonetile.com

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Anthropologie
anthropologie.com

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blackroosterdecor.com

Bouclair
bouclair.com

Browning & Company Picture Framing
browningandcompany.wordpress.com

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burnettstyle.com

Burritt Bros. Carpet & Floors
burrittfloors.com

C

Caesarstone Canada
caesarstone.ca

Cantu Bathrooms & Hardware
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Capital Millwork
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CB2
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Creekside Tile
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The Cross Decor & Design
thecrossdesign.com

The Curated House by Sarah Walker
thecuratedhouse.com

D

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mydesignrepublic.com

Design Within Reach
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Designer Fabrics
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Mike Rachlis
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Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams
mgbwhome.com

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O

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olystudio.com

Once a Tree Furniture
onceatreefurniture.com

Örling & Wu
orlingandwu.com

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pacefabrics.com

Pier 1 Imports
pier1.ca

Primavera*
primavera.ca

Pull & Staple
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Q

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ribbehegeandazevedo.com

Riesco & Lapres Interior Design
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Robert Abbey
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Robinson Lighting & Bath Centre
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Rothman & Co.
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Royal Lighting
royallighting.com

S

Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co.
schoolhouseelectric.com

Serena & Lily
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Shelter
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Stone Tile International
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The Victoria Lampshade Shop
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Visual Comfort & Co.*
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W

WC The Store
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Y

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yellowkorner.com

***through designers**

Note: Items not credited were either sourced by the designer or were not available at the time of print.

Hand-carved mango wood Sun **MIRROR,** 35″, $399 US, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

Antiqued bronze-finished metal Quinn **MIRROR,** 36″, $375, Elte Market, eltemkt.com.

Large wooden Cog **MIRROR,** 35″, $352, Casalife, casalife.com.

Powder-coated steel Ninna **MIRROR,** 32″, $199, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.com.

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Antiqued gold-leafed metal **MIRROR,** 43″, $555, Elte, elte.com.

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Faux-stone Polyterrazzo **MIRROR,** 30″, $199, CB2, cb2.com.

Lacquered walnut veneer Stockholm **MIRROR,** 32″, $129, IKEA, ikea.ca.

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